

Dear Commissioner Dimas,

As the Parliament's Rapporteur on the Commission communication "Reducing the Climate Change Impact of Aviation", it was with some astonishment that I read the article pasted below in today's Guardian newspaper.

Given all the work that is currently underway in the Commission on ways to fulfil the objective of the above communication, it seems quite extraordinary that the same Commission could be working on legislation which would require EU states to reach agreement with the US before taking measures to tackle noise or pollution from airlines - as would apparently be the case according to Article 14 of the draft "Open Skies" treaty.

Noting the US's track record on this issue, it hardly seems likely that mutual agreement on measures such as those being discussed in the context of the communication would be achieved. Clearly, this throws the whole process into considerable confusion.

This matter is of great concern; please clarify what the situation is. I will be sending a similar email to Commissioner Barrot.

Yours sincerely

Caroline Lucas